Moniam Tax

* 1435 *Q.*—Sri T. S. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken a decision not to abolish the Moniam Tax;

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) if not, the reasons for the long delay in implementing the Damodaran Aasan Committee Report?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*a*) of his question No. 664 answered on the floor of the Assembly on 8th March 1961. The question of abolition of Maniamkaram is still under the consideration of the Government.

Sri T. S. RAMASWAMI : Sir, it is more than six years since we have come over here to the Madras State. The whole matter had been thoroughly discussed and an exhaustive report has also been submitted to the Government and in fact, a Bill has also been drafted in the other State. Under these circumstances, may I know the reason for such a long delay in regard to this matter?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : The reason is this. The question itself is an intricate and ticklish one. Added to it, other difficulties have also come in the way. For instance, the Travancore High Court had delivered a judgment over the question of Tirupuvaram. We are looking into it and we have referred the matter to the Advocate-General. There are these difficulties. After due consideration of the various aspects, proper steps will be taken.

Director of Public Health (Re-employment)

* 1436 *Q.*—Sri A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the term of re-employment of the Director of Public Health has been extended further by one year; and

(*b*) if so, the reason therefor?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) No decision has yet been taken.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Sri A. A. RASHEED : Is it a fact that the present Director of Public Health has been re-employed twice?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, he has now been employed for the second time.

Sri A. A. RASHEED : When there are highly qualified Assistant Directors who are also seniormost, what was the necessity for re-employing a person twice?